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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/761,375	01/22/2004	Matthew J. Cannon	RIC-98-050C1	3103
25537	7590	05/20/2005	EXAMINER	
MCI, INC TECHNOLOGY LAW DEPARTMENT 1133 19TH STREET NW, 10TH FLOOR WASHINGTON, DC 20036			JAIN, RAJ K	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2664	

DATE MAILED: 05/20/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/761,375

Applicant(s)

CANNON ET AL.

Examiner

Raj K. Jain

Art Unit

2664

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 22 January 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 25-46 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 25-46 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 22 January 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date vary.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims **25-46** examined on the merits.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 25-46 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Shanker et al (US006570869B1) hereinafter Shanker in view of Cowgill (US 5,768,361) hereinafter Cowgill.

Regarding claims 25-27, 30-32, 35, 36, 39, 40, 43 and 44 Shanker discloses a method for establishing a telephone call (see abstract, Figs 1 & 4), comprising:

- receiving a call establishment request (see Figs 1 & 4, col 13 lines 1-33, a call request and establishment message 402 is created and sent to node 100 and then to coding unit 110);
- conversion of protocols between first format to second format (see Fig 1, col 5 lines 14-32, during call establishment between two end points, protocol conversion is performed between legacy and current systems for a continuous operation between old and new systems with least cost and high efficiency. The means for protocol conversion is performed by the signaling units 120, 140.).

Shanker fails to disclose the use of mapping of nature of address (NOA) indicator and numbering plan indicator (NPI).

Cowgill discloses mapping of nature of address indicator and numbering plan indicator (see col 13 lines 10 – col 14 line 65). Nature of address entry indicates the type of dialed number, for example, national versus international. The Nature of address entry allows the call process to route a call based on the Nature of address value provided. Numbering Plan indicator contains information identifying the switch from which the trunk group is originating or to which the trunk group is terminating. Telecommunications switches typically operate in known environments with fixed dial plans and the expected digit patterns are pre-defined. By knowing what the digit patterns will be, the telecommunications switch uses an inflexible hard coded program to identify the received digit patterns. The hard coded telecommunications switches are specifically defined for a particular country and would not operate in other countries, as each numbering plan is different. Furthermore, with respect to protocol translation one skilled in the art will appreciate conversion tables are look-up tables, which allow a processor to “equate” and translate the components of one field of address to another field of equal address.

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate both an NOA and NPI within Shanker so as to allow for continuous and smooth interconnect of all calls between national and international boundaries with single subscriber number dialing plan as opposed to legacy “operated” assisted connections between switching points.

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Regarding claims 28, 29, 33, 34, 37, 38, 41, 42, 45 and 46 Shanker discloses network signaling protocol such as SIP, and telephony signaling protocol such as SS7, ISDN ISUP and CAS protocols (see col 1 lines 25-37, col 4 line 50 – col 5 line 27).

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Raj Jain whose telephone number is 571-272-3145.

The examiner can normally be reached on M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Wellington Chin can be reached on 571-272-3134. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 872-9306 for regular communications and (703) 872-9306 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 571-272-

2600.



RJ

May 13, 2005